REGULAR WEEKLY SESSION----ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

January 3, 2006

9:00 a.m.

The Council of the City of Roanoke met in regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 159, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, with Council Member M. Rupert Cutler presiding, pursuant to Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, City Council, Section 2-15, Rules of Procedure, Rule 1, Regular Meetings, Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, and pursuant to Resolution No. 37109-070505 adopted by the Council on Tuesday, July 5, 2005.

	PRESENT: Council Member M. Rupert Cutler1
Dowe,	ABSENT: Council Members Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff, Alfred T., Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, and Mayor C. Nelson
	COUNCIL: Due to the lack of a quorum, Council Member Cutler advised that

the Council meeting would stand in recess until 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., Roanoke, Virginia.

At 2:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 3, 2006, the Council meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, Room 450, Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, 215 Church Avenue, S. W., City of Roanoke, Virginia, with Mayor C. Nelson Harris presiding.

PRESENT: Council Members Brenda L. McDaniel, Brian J. Wishneff, M. Rupert Cutler, Alfred T. Dowe, Jr., Beverly T. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Sherman P. Lea, and Mayor C. Nelson Harris ------7.

ABSENT: None-----0.

The Mayor declared the existence of a quorum.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Darlene L. Burcham, City Manager; William M. Hackworth, City Attorney; Jesse A. Hall, Director of Finance; and Mary F. Parker, City Clerk.

The invocation was delivered by Council Member Alfred T. Dowe, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mayor Harris.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: NONE.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor advised that all matters listed under the Consent Agenda were considered to be routine by the Members of Council and would be enacted by one motion in the form, or forms, listed on the Consent Agenda, and if discussion was desired, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately. He called specific attention to two requests for Closed Session.

COMMITTEES-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: A communication from Mayor C. Nelson Harris requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to discuss vacancies on certain authorities, boards, commissions and committees appointed by Council, and to interview an applicant for a vacancy on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that Council convene in Closed Session as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, and Mayor Harris7.
NAYS: None0.
CITY ATTORNEY-CITY COUNCIL: A communication from the City Attorney requesting that Council convene in a Closed Meeting to consult with legal counsel on a specific legal matter requiring the provision of legal counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, was before the body.
Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that Council convene in Closed Session as abovedescribed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:
AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, and Mayor Harris7.
NAYS: None0.
BUDGET: A communication from the City Manager recommending that

April 10-14, 2006 City Manager briefs City Council on recommended budget.

Council adopt the following Calendar of Events for Budget Preparation Activities

for fiscal year 2006-2007, was before the body.

April 14, 2006	Recommended budget document delivered to City Council Members.
April 17, 2006	Recommended budget presented to City Council at regularly scheduled meeting; meeting continued to April 27.
April 18, 2006	Advertisements of public hearings on recommended budget and tax rates appear in newspapers.
	Note: State Code requires the advertisement of the real property tax rate for the fiscal year.
April 27, 2006	Public hearings on recommended budget and tax rates at <u>7:00 p.m.</u>
May 4, and 5, 2006	Budget Study - <u>8:30 a.m 5:00 p.m.</u> (continuation of May 1 City Council meeting).
May 11, 2006	City Council adopts General Fund, School Fund, Proprietary Fund budgets and an Update to the HUD Consolidated Plan and approves an annual appropriation ordinance at 2:00 p.m.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved that Council concur in the recommendation of the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cutler and adopted by the following vote:

	AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fit	zpatrick, Lea,
and N	Mayor Harris	7.
	NAVC: None	0

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

CITY MARKET-CITY PROPERTY-LEASES: Pursuant to instructions by the Council, the City Clerk having advertised a public hearing for Tuesday, January 3, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on a proposal to lease City-owned property located at 32 Market Square, S. W., to Elias Azar, d/b/a Azar Jewelry, Inc., for use as office space for a term of three years, the matter was before the body.

Legal advertisement of the public hearing was published in *The Roanoke Times* on Monday, December 26, 2005.

The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the City of Roanoke owns the City Market Building, located at 32 Market Square and began management of the building on May 1, 2005, after the former management company, Advantis Real Estate, terminated the management contract.

It was further advised that Elias Azar, owner and operator of Azar Jewelry, Inc., has requested a lease agreement for approximately 418 square feet to sell and/or repair jewelry; the proposed lease agreement is for a period of three years, beginning January 3, 2006 through January 2, 2009; the proposed agreement establishes a base rent rate of \$23.50 per square foot, with an increase of three per cent each year thereafter, and a common area maintenance fee of \$125.00 per month that will increase by three per cent upon each anniversary of the lease; in addition to base rent and common area maintenance, the tenant will also pay \$72.00 per month for 34 months, totaling \$2,448.00, for reimbursement of costs incurred by the City associated with framing two open doorways, installation of hot and cold water supply and waste line and a sink provided by the tenant with two ground fault outlets, and removal of existing carpet; and the lease contains no renewal provision.

The City Manager recommended that she be authorized to execute a lease agreement with Elias Azar d/b/a Azar Jewelry, Inc., for approximately 418 square feet of space in the City Market Building, for a period of three years, beginning January 3, 2006 and ending January 2, 2009, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Council Member Cutler offered the following ordinance:

(#37278-010306) AN ORDINANCE authorizing the lease of approximately 418 square feet of space located within City-owned property known as the City Market Building, located at 32 Market Square, for a term of three (3) years beginning January 3, 2006 and expiring January 2, 2009, with a base rent rate of \$23.50 per square foot, authorizing the appropriate City officials to execute a Lease Agreement therefor; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 123.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37278-010306. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel.

The Mayor inquired if there were persons present who would like to be heard in connection with the proposed lease agreement. There being none, he declared the public hearing closed.

There being no questions or comments by Council Members, Ordinance No. 37278-010306 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, and Mayor Harris------7.

NAYS: None-----0.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

CITY MANAGER:

BRIEFINGS: NONE.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR ACTION:

BUDGET-FIRE DEPARTMENT-GRANTS: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that the Fire Programs Fund was established by the General Assembly, effective October 4, 1985, pursuant to Section 38.1-44.1, Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended; and the sunset clause requiring expiration of the Fund on July 1, 1990 was removed, thus, the City's annual allocation of State funds will continue indefinitely.

It was further advised that program guidelines require that funds received are non-supplanting and may not be used to replace existing local funding; funds must be used in accordance with provisions established by the State Department of Fire Programs; and the City of Roanoke's allocation of \$215,029.00 was deposited in Account No. 035-520-3335-3365 from the Department of Fire Programs.

It was explained that the City's portion of the Roanoke Regional Fire-EMS Training Center debt service is \$60,000.00, which was paid annually from the revenue source; remaining grant funds will be used to purchase replacement turnout gear as needed, small supplies such as tools and helmets and other personal protective equipment; and in accordance with provisions of the program, action by Council is needed to formally accept and appropriate funds to authorize the Director of Finance to establish revenue estimates and to appropriate accounts in the Grant Fund.

The City Manager recommended that she be authorized to accept the grant and to accept and file any documents setting forth conditions of the Fiscal Year 2006 Fire Programs Funds Grant, and to provide such additional information as may be required. She further recommended that Council adopt an ordinance

establishing a revenue estimate for Fire Program Fiscal Year 2006 - State Account No. 035-520-3335-3365, and appropriate funds in the amount of \$215,029.00 in various expenditure accounts to be established by the Director of Finance in the Grant Fund.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following budget ordinance:

(#37279-010306) AN ORDINANCE appropriating funding for the Fire Program Grant, amending and reordaining certain sections of the 2005-2006 Grant Fund Appropriations, and dispensing with the second reading by title of this ordinance.

(For full text of ordinance, see Ordinance Book No. 70, Page 124.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Ordinance No. 37279-010306. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

and M	AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitz Mayor Harris	• • • •
	NAYS: None	·····0.

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick offered the following resolution:

(#37280-010306) A RESOLUTION authorizing the acceptance of the FY2006 Fire Programs Funds Grant made to the City of Roanoke by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs and authorizing the execution and filing by the City Manager of any documents required by the grant.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 125.)

Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37280-010306. The motion was seconded by Council Member McDaniel and adopted by the following vote:

	AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea	•
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	NAYS: None).

GRANTS-HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: The City Manager submitted a communication advising that on October 17, 2005, Council adopted criteria for funding non-profit organizations; criterion on board member participation was not worded as agreed upon by the Funder's Circle and the Carilion Foundation; and board member participation will be changed from each board member has an annual average attendance rate of at least 75 per cent to an annual average board meeting attendance of 75 per cent in the aggregate.

It was further advised that as a result of conversations with representatives from the Arts Council of the Blue Ridge, Council of Community Services, Human Services Advisory Board, and the Roanoke Arts Commission, additional revisions are recommended which include changing the term "criteria" to "guidelines" in order to note specific requirements that agencies are expected to adhere to when applying for funding; while non-adherence to guidelines will not necessarily prohibit an agency from receiving funds, adherence will be used as one of the key factors in determining the award of funding; a threshold minimum request of \$25,000.00 will be used for application of the guidelines; any agency requesting \$25,000.00 or more will be expected to adhere to the guidelines; and the \$25,000.00 threshold will be applied at the agency level, so that individual program applications will be aggregated.

It was explained that the "semi-annual" reporting of results will be changed to "periodic" reporting of results in order to provide flexibility to report results on a more frequent basis if needed; and corrected wording which is proposed for adoption by Council is as follows:

The following guidelines apply to agencies that request \$25,000.00 or more:

- 1. Organizations must develop a business plan that includes evidence of community involvement and outlines long-term plans for financial sustainability.
- 2. Boards of organizations must demonstrate engagement with their organization by certifying financial commitment at 100 per cent and annual average meeting attendance at 75 per cent.
- 3. Organizations must agree to an annual site visit and periodic reporting of results achieved through funds received.
- 4. Organizations in existence for two years or more with an annual budget of \$50,000.00 must perform an annual audit.

It was noted that the City of Roanoke will be joined by Carilion Foundation and the Funders Circle in this approach; other private foundations are also considering the criteria in their funding process; and all past recipients of City funds will be informed of the new requirements upon adoption of guidelines for funding non-profit organizations.

The City Manager recommended that Council adopt guidelines, as amended.

Council Member Cutler offered the following resolution:

(#37281-010306) A RESOLUTION adopting a revised policy pertaining to funding for non-profit organizations that request \$25,000.00 or more in future budget cycles, and repealing Resolution No. 37215-101705 adopted on October 17, 2005.

(For full text of resolution, see Resolution Book No. 70, Page 126.)

Council Member Cutler moved the adoption of Resolution No. 37281-010306. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Fitzpatrick.

Pam Kestner-Chappelear, President, Council of Community Services, representing a group of local non-profit organizations that are concerned about the criteria for funding non-profit organizations as adopted by Council on Monday, October 17, 2005, advised that changes recommended by the City Manager will be helpful; changing the term "criteria" to "guidelines" will reflect the intention that adherence to the guidelines is expected, but non-adherence to the guidelines will not necessarily prohibit an agency from receiving funds; and the revisions will also encourage non-profit organizations to work toward adhering to the guidelines. She stated that creation of a threshold minimum request of \$25,000.00 to be used for application guidelines will help smaller non-profit organizations because some may not have available resources to meet guidelines. She added that at this point, the impact of the guidelines is unknown and with experience, it is hoped that there will be an opportunity for refinement. She spoke in support of the appointment of a task force to oversee the guidelines and their impact on nonprofit organizations and the services that they provide to ensure support by all organizations, which will result in funding guidelines that will strengthen nonprofit organizations and will focus on the impact of taxpavers' dollars on the lives of Roanoke's citizens. If a task force is not appointed, she advised that the nonprofit community respectfully requests that as the City engages in future actions related to funding and/or management of non-profits, that input be sought from representatives of the non-profit community prior to implementation of any policies or quidelines.

Council Member Cutler stated that serious consideration should be given to Ms. Kestner-Chappelear's suggestion to create a task force to review future evolving criteria. He spoke in support of adoption of the amended guidelines and called attention to the receipt of letters from approximately 20 non-profit organizations expressing concerns with regard to the original criteria. He stated that prior to submitting the guidelines to Council for adoption, criteria should have been drafted with input from the affected non-profit organizations and representatives of Council appointed committees that dispense City grants to non-profit organizations, both to receive suggestions regarding content and as a sign of respect for non-profit organizations. He advised that the needs of the citizens of Roanoke are met by three groups: the business community that provides jobs and pays taxes; the government that provides public safety, education and other aspects of public welfare; and by the charitable, non-profit community that largely,

through the work of volunteers, addresses the well-being of those who need help and those who desire such amenities as museums, music, historic preservation, and other activities that neither the business community nor government can provide inasmuch as they are not appropriate uses of taxpayers' money. He referred to the local grant application criteria adopted by the United Way of Roanoke Valley and mentioned that the City might, over time, seek to combine its criteria with United Way criteria to keep the paperwork burdens of non-profit organizations at a minimum. He advised that the City has good reason to require groups requesting funds to demonstrate that they have the capacity to handle the funds in a responsible manner; the City also owes charitable organizations a note of appreciation for their assistance to the community and the organizations should be treated not as supplicants, but as partners in the care of residents of the City of Roanoke.

Without objection by Council, the Mayor advised that the suggestion of Ms. Kestner-Chappelear with regard to appointment of a task force to oversee guidelines would be referred to the City Manager for report to Council.

There being no further discussion, Resolution No. 37281-010306 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea, and Mayor Harris-----7.

NAYS: None-----0.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:

AUDITS/FINANCIAL REPORTS: The Director of Finance submitted the Financial Report for the month of November 2005.

(For full text, see Financial Report on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

There being no discussion and without objection by Council, the Mayor advised that the Financial Report for the month of November 2005 would be received and filed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: NONE.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: NONE.

MOTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

INQUIRIES AND/OR COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

YOUTH-SNOW REMOVAL-ROANOKE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP: Council Member Lea referred to inquiries from senior citizens who state that they are physically unable to remove ice and snow from the sidewalk in front of their residence and inquired if the City can be of assistance.

The City Manager advised that pursuant to a City ordinance, individuals who have sidewalks in front of their properties are responsible for the removal of snow from the sidewalks by a certain time following the snow activity and there is no provision for exemption; however, the City's Office on Youth has compiled a list of young people who serve as volunteers, or for minimum compensation, will clean City sidewalks. She advised that the response by citizens this year to clearing sidewalks has not been good, therefore, following the most recent snow event, Public Works employees and Police Officers were instructed to remind citizens of the City's ordinance requiring the removal of snow which is a critical element as to when children will return to school, inasmuch as this is one of the measures used by the school system in determining whether or not schools will be open. She called attention to problems associated with vacant properties or absentee landlords, and advised that on occasion, if the problem exists for an extended period of time, the City will remove snow and bill the property owner in much the same way as the City bills for trash and debris removal. She also suggested that Robert Clement, Neighborhood Coordinator, be contacted with regard to assistance by neighborhood organizations.

SCHOOLS: Council Member Cutler advised that the new Patrick Henry High School was officially opened on Monday, January 2, 2006.

The Mayor advised that a community open house will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2006, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the new Patrick Henry High School.

HEARING OF CITIZENS UPON PUBLIC MATTERS: The Mayor advised that Council sets this time as a priority for citizens to be heard and matters requiring referral to the City Manager will be referred immediately for response, recommendation or report to Council.

BONDS/BOND ISSUES: Mr. Allen Scanlan, 1631 Center Hill Drive, S. W., raised the following hypothetical scenarios: assuming that all projects included in bond issue Series 2002A had been completed, with the exception of the Crystal Spring Water Filtration Plant for about \$5.4 million; assuming that the drought is over and water reservoir levels are full, and the Council decided to purchase a tract of land and to construct a roller skating arena with a majority of the funds that were previously specified for the Water Filtration Plant. He stated that a governing body has broad control over the use of General Obligation Bond funds, but questioned if such an extreme variation as above referenced, would raise concerns by those bond holders who invested in the bonds with a specific indication as to

the use of the proceeds. He also questioned if taxpayers would support such a variation, even if it were proven to be legal. He advised that having served as a former registered representative with the National Association of Security Dealers, with an affiliated registration as a broker dealer, he would not want to encounter such questions from an institutional or a private client without knowing that such actions are appropriate, and asked that Council give consideration to calling for an investigation of the appropriateness of the use of bond funds for Roanoke's high school stadium construction. He noted that detailed requests have been submitted to the appropriate departments of the Securities and Exchange Commission and to the Municipal Securities Rule Making Board, including material from the bond prospectus, resolutions adopted by Council authorizing issuance and sale of the bonds, and minutes of City Council meetings in which the matter was referred to as a stadium/amphitheater. He pointed out that there is no connection in the Council minutes and resolutions regarding the pending use of funds for construction of high school stadia. He referred to a Council/School Board workshop that was held on January 22, 2002, in which such topics as teamwork, leadership, understanding the quality of education, definition of quality education, understanding the desires and needs of the children, the definition of the best education in Roanoke and listening to the community were discussed. He suggested that the minutes of the meeting be reviewed by Council, inasmuch as only one member of both the City Council and the School Board are currently in office and in light of recent happenings.

Mr. Scanlan's remarks were referred to the City Manager and Director of Finance for report to Council.

CITY MARKET-CITY PROPERTY-LEASES: Ms. Anita Wilson, a City Market building tenant, advised that she has operated her business for three years without a formal lease agreement with the City. She stated that earlier in the meeting, Council approved a three year lease agreement with Elias Azar, d/b/a Azar Jewelry, Inc., for the lease of space in the City Market building and advised that other tenants in the Market building also deserve a formal lease agreement with the City. She added that Market building tenants would like for vacant space in the City Market building to be rented in order to generate more income for the building; and she would like to make needed improvements to her business and/or to combine businesses, but references have been made with regard to disenfranchising tenants in connection with the comprehensive market study. She stated that the City Market building has lasted beyond its initial expectation, for 25 years the same furniture has been used and many of the same tenants continue to operate a business out of the Market building. She advised that if the City will work with Market building tenants and if tenants will work with the Market consultant, many good things can be accomplished in the City Market Building and in the downtown area in general.

The City Manager advised that earlier in the meeting, the first City Market Building lease was approved by Council, and will be immediately followed by Economic Development staff attempting to negotiate leases with those Market building businesses that are operating with expired leases, which will include Ms. Wilson's business. She pointed out that until City staff took over operation of the Market building, the City was not involved in lease development; Economic Development staff devoted considerable time to developing a lease; the exclusivity clause, which created much anxiety for some businesses, was brought to Council for review; and past due accounts by certain tenants are now in compliance. She explained that inasmuch as Council has acted favorably on the first lease, City staff is in a position to move forward with discussions leading to individual leases.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

ACTS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-CITY COUNCIL: The City Manager advised that she hoped the Members of Council had a happy holiday season and she looked forward to working with the Council in the year 2006.

At 2:40 p.m., the Mayor declared the Council meeting in recess for two Closed Sessions in the Council's Conference Room.

At 3:50 p.m., the Council meeting reconvened in the City Council Chamber, with all Members of the Council in attendance, Mayor Harris presiding.

COUNCIL: With respect to the Closed Meeting just concluded, Council Member McDaniel moved that each Member of City Council certify to the best of his or her knowledge that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in any motion by which any Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by City Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dowe and adopted by the following vote:

	ES: Council Members McDaniel, Wishne	
апо мауо	r Harris	·····/.
NA	YS: None	0.

OATHS OF OFFICE-COMMITTEES-HOUSING/AUTHORITY: The Mayor advised that there is a vacancy on the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority created by the resignation of Mornique E. Smith, for a term ending August 31, 2008; whereupon, he opened the floor for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Council Member Cutler placed in nomination the name of Joseph W. Lee, III.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Lee was appointed as a Commissioner of the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, to fill the unexpired term of Mornique E. Smith, ending August 31, 2008, by the following vote:

FOR MR. LEE: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea and Mayor Harris ------7.

COMMITTEES-ROANOKE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIP-OATHS OF OFFICE: The Mayor advised that there is a vacancy on the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates to fill the unexpired term of Earnest C. Wilson ending June 30, 2007, and called for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Council Member Cutler placed in nomination the name of Carol J. Jenson.

There being no further nominations, Ms. Jensen was appointed as a member of the Roanoke Neighborhood Advocates, to fill the unexpired term of Earnest C. Wilson, ending June 30, 2007, by the following vote:

FOR MS. JENSEN: Council Members McDaniel, Wishneff, Cutler, Dowe, Fitzpatrick, Lea and Mayor Harris ------7.

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the Council meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

APPROVED

ATTEST:

Mary F. Parker City Clerk C. Nelson Harris Mayor